

REGULAR MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
November 3, 2014

The Jasper County Board of Commissioners met this date at 8:15 A.M. in the Commissioners' Room, Suite 202, of the Jasper County Courthouse located at 115 West Washington Street, Rensselaer, Indiana, with the following members present: Kendell Culp, Richard E. Maxwell and James A. Walstra. Also present was the Auditor of Jasper County, Kimberly K. Grow; Deputy Auditor, Donna J. Horner; Highway Engineer/Supervisor, Jack R. Haberlin and the Attorney who represents the Commissioners, Eric Beaver. The meeting was called to order and those present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Culp.

CLAIMS: Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

PAYROLL CLAIM & ALLOWANCE DOCKETS: Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the Payroll Claim & Allowance Dockets for the check dates equal to October 15, 2014 and October 30, 2014. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

MINUTES: Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 6, 2014. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

PERMISSION TO USE COURTHOUSE GROUNDS: Linda Comingore, Rensselaer Chamber of Commerce, requested permission to place the Santa house on the sidewalk located in the northwest corner of the Courthouse. In the past, lights were placed on the two large trees located in the north corners; however, we would like permission this year to use one or two smaller trees that would also be placed in the northwest corner. Ms. Comingore stated that the trees would be placed in an area as to not disturb the memorial. Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the requests. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

PERMISSION TO REFILL PART-TIME POSITIONS: William Wakeland, Director / Community Corrections, requested permission to fill a part-time Correctional Officer position. There are now currently two part-time positions opened. One of the part-time employees was moved to the full-time position that was recently made available upon the retirement of another employee. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the requests for the two part-time positions. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

COURTHOUSE / EXTERIOR MASONRY PRESERVATION: A payment application in the amount of \$108,022.50 was received from Midwest Restoration. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the payment application request. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

Larry Furry, Midwest Restoration, stated that sealer was applied on a couple of different stones approximately two weeks ago. Mr. Haberlin pointed out that the sealer does come with a 10-year warranty. In response to a question from Mr. Haberlin, Mr. Furry stated that although the sealer does not eliminate mold and dirt, it does help. The temperature does have to be at least 40 degrees before the sealer can be applied and the application will take 3 – 3 ½ days to complete. Once the application is complete, we will go back and clean all of the windows. Discussion took place in regards to the amount of the change order. Mr. Culp stated that his thought is that he wouldn't want to spend any more for the sealer than what the change order was. The Commissioners will view the stones with sealer and discuss further after their break.

PRINTER FLEET / CONTRACT: William Batley, IT, stated that the large multi-function printer fleet is up for renewal. The current monthly payment for this printer fleet is \$1,149.95. The new monthly payment will be \$1,063.22. The fleet consists of eleven (11) printers. The lease term is five (5) years. Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the 5-year copier lease with Ricoh in the amount of \$1,063.22 pending Attorney Beaver's review. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

CORONER / UPDATE: Andy Boersma, Coroner, reported that he had a gentleman come in from Illiana Heat to discuss the installation of a new furnace along with an ionization/filtration system to help eliminate any foul odors. Mr. Boersma also reported that there have been a total of 64 coroner cases so far this year.

Mr. Boersma invited the Commissioners to attend a program at Kankakee Valley School on Veteran's Day at 9:00 A.M. The guest speaker will be Robert Monfort.

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SWCD / PERMISSION TO REPLACE FULL-TIME POSITION: Jim Martin, Soil & Water Conservation District, requested permission to replace the full-time District Coordinator position. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Culp requested a brief update on the restroom facilities. Mr. Martin stated that the Commissioners appropriated approximately \$10,000.00 for SWCD to put into the restroom facilities located in their new building at the fairgrounds. Approximately \$9,000.00 has been used so far. Upon request, the Commissioners approved the use of the remainder of the \$10,000.00 towards other items such as fixtures within the restroom and the sidewalk outside of the facilities.

VOLUNTEER POLICY / ANIMAL SHELTER: Kyler Laird, Animal Control Board, was present to discuss the volunteer policy that was submitted for approval at the last meeting. Mr. Culp stated that some of the concerns with the policy are liability and exposure. Stace Pickering, Consolidated Insurance, stated that the county should be fine on the liability side; however, the issue that you could face is if one of the volunteers were to get injured. This would result in a worker's compensation claim. The only way that you would be able to pick up coverage for the volunteers is with a "roster of volunteers" that would be put on as an endorsement to the worker's compensation policy. Mr. Pickering stated that he believes that the cost is \$1,000.00 for the first 20 volunteers and \$500.00 for each additional 10 volunteers. Attorney Beaver stated that he has been reviewing this on more of a county-wide basis. It appears that it would be prudent to have a centralized process for the county to provide our workman's comp carrier with a roster of volunteers. Mr. Pickering stated that there are accident policies; however, they will cap you at \$20,000.00 - \$25,000.00 in medical. Workman's comp does not have a cap on the medical. Auditor Grow will request a list of all volunteers from department heads.

PARADE EXPENSES / ANIMAL SHELTER DONATION FUND: Mr. Laird requested permission to reimburse two employees for parade expenses totaling approximately \$1,300.00 out of the Donation Fund. Pauline Boring, Animal Control Board, stated that the majority of the items were purchased for goody bags that were passed out to the kids. According to the ordinance, expenditures from the Donation Fund must first be approved by the Animal Control Board, the Board of Commissioners, and the County Council. Mr. Culp suggested that the Animal Control Board put a cap on the amount to be spent next year. You need to evaluate how effective that expenditure was to the mission of the shelter. Mr. Laird replied that it wouldn't be something that he would feel comfortable taking out of the budget; however, as far as the donations, it is outreach / education. Ms. Grow wanted the record to show that if she were to donate money to the animal shelter, she would expect that the money would be used towards the care of the animals not towards a parade float and / or goody bags to be passed out during the parade. Mr. Laird replied that, speaking personally, he tries to get the food and care through our budget and I would like to use the donations for more things that aren't the basic needs provided to the animals. Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve sending the request to appropriate the \$1,300.00 from the donation fund to the County Council. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

KENNEL PROJECT / ANIMAL SHELTER DONATION FUND: Per a request from Mr. Culp, Mr. Laird requested \$1,000.00 from the donation fund to go to Eric Johnson's project to refurbish the DeMotte kennel. The kennel is used to house stray animals until the shelter is able to get there to pick them up. Pauline Boring stated that Mr. Johnson's goal is to raise approximately \$2,000.00. Mr. Johnson is in the process of becoming an Eagle Scout and he has chosen the refurbishment of the kennel as his community project. Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve sending the request to appropriate the \$1,000.00 from the donation fund to the County Council. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

REPAIR OF FRONT DOOR / ANIMAL SHELTER: Mr. Laird stated that the front door to the shelter has not been locking and is difficult to open and close. An estimate in the amount of \$3,000.00 from Schuh Construction was submitted. Mr. Maxwell suggested having one of the employees from the Highway Department look at the door before proceeding.

RESOLUTION / HYPERBARIC OXYGEN THERAPY: Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve Resolution No. 11-3-2014 advocating Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT) and other medical treatments and therapy for Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) as submitted by Patrick Donnelly, Veteran Service Officer. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

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FIRST EMPIRE / LONG TERM INVESTMENTS: Mark Davidoff, First Empire, gave a webinar presentation regarding long term investments.

AFLAC / SUPPLEMENTAL DENTAL POLICY: Todd McAchren, Aflac Representative, presented a supplemental dental plan that would go along with the county's existing plan. The voluntary plan would be paid 100% by the employee. The plan can be used with any dentist and does pay a fee rather than a percentage. The annual maximum on this plan is \$1,200.00 per person per year. The plan increases \$100.00 per year as you carry the coverage. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the addition of the supplemental dental plan as an option available to the county employees. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

REZONE / HANGING GROVE TOWNSHIP (METZGER): A request was made to change the zoning classification of real estate in Hanging Grove Township from the A1 Conservation Agriculture District to the A2 General Agricultural District. Mary Scheurich, Director / Planning & Development, stated that there is an existing structure on the approximately 7 acres. The applicant would like to sell off their existing home and build a new home on the other parcel. The Plan Commission did unanimously approve the request. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve **Ordinance No. 11-3-2014A**. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

ANIMAL CONTROL BOARD / ATTORNEY: Kyler Laird, Animal Control Board, reported that Attorney Kallenbach has offered to fill the vacant position on the Animal Control Board. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the appointment. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

JAIL FACILITY / UPDATE: Kurt Stevens, KB Solutions, reported that they are finishing punch list items on the commissioning this week. There are some technical issues with the way that the thermostats are set up. Mr. Stevens stated that he would like to continue with the monitoring at least through the winter. Sheriff Risner reported that he had not yet received the October billing; however, the prior month's bill was just over \$6,000.00 less than the month prior.

AIRPORT GROUND / LEASE: Brad Cozza, Airport Manager, displayed maps of the airport and surrounding ground. Mr. Cozza stated that Jasper County Abstract identified a parcel at the south end that is presently titled to the State of Indiana. The parcel was titled to the State in 1964 for the erection of an armory. Attorney Beaver asked if there was any sort of reversion with this deed? Mr. Cozza replied that our own attorney identified that the reversionary clause does not apply to that parcel. The Attorney for the Airport Authority is currently working on the language for the lease.

FARM METAL THEFT: Hans Markland, concern citizen, expressed his concern with theft against farmers. Mr. Markland stated that the problem is bad and he would like to see more done.

FRANCISCAN WORKING WELL / OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES: Auditor Grow asked the Commissioners if they had made a decision in regards to the services offered by Franciscan Working Well? After some discussion, Ms. Grow will contact Diana Bridges, Franciscan Working Well, with some further questions.

EMPLOYEE BONDS: Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the employee bonds for Shannon Kellner, Deputy Auditor; Debra Brouwer, Deputy Auditor; Dawn Hoffman, Assessor; Vickie Bozell, Clerk; Christine Haskell, Prosecutor; Terry Risner, Sheriff; Carla Anderson, Treasurer; Tammy McEwan, Deputy Treasurer; and Carolyn Hefner, Deputy Treasurer. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

At this time, there was a short break.

COURTHOUSE PRESERVATION / SEALER: In regards to the sealing of the Courthouse, Mr. Culp recommended that they be given a not to exceed price of \$58,390.00. Mr. Walstra asked how long it will take to get the material? Larry Furry, Midwest Restoration, replied that it will take at least five (5) days to get the product. Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the seal coat by Midwest Restoration on the courthouse for a not to exceed price of \$58,390.00. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

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REQUEST TO EXTEND COMPENSATORY TIME: Vickie Bozell, Clerk, stated per letter that she will have three employees earning compensatory time on October 31 due to election poll worker training. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING: The Board of Finance Meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, January 6 at 8:00 A.M.

COMMISSIONERS MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE YEAR 2015: Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the following Commissioners Meeting Schedule for the year 2015. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried. Please note that the January and February meetings are not held on the 1st Monday of the month

Tuesday, January 6
Monday, February 9
Monday, March 2
Monday, April 6
Monday, May 4
Monday, June 1
Monday, July 6
Monday, August 3
Tuesday, September 8
Monday, October 5
Monday, November 2
Monday, December 7
Monday, December 21

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2016

Monday, January 4

2015 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE: Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the following 2015 Holiday Schedule. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

Thursday, January 1	New Year's Day
Monday, January 19	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Monday, February 16	Presidents Day
Friday, April 3	Good Friday
Tuesday, May 5	Primary Election Day
Monday, May 25	Memorial Day
Friday, July 3	Independence Day Observation
Monday, September 7	Labor Day
Monday, October 12	Columbus Day
Tuesday, November 3	General Election Day
Wednesday, November 11	Veterans Day Holiday
Thursday, November 26	Thanksgiving Day
Friday, November 27	Thanksgiving Holiday
Thursday, December 24	Christmas Eve Holiday
Friday, December 25	Christmas Day

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2016

Friday, January 1

New Year's Day

FARMGROUND / AIRPORT: A letter has been received from the tenant of the airport farm stating that he would like to renew his contract lease excluding the 18.59 acres within the confines of the Jasper County Airport. Attorney Beaver will review the renewal language within the farm leases.

ENERGY SAVINGS / COURTHOUSE: Mr. Culp stated that the Council approved \$250,000.00 within the budget to be used towards energy savings at the Courthouse. This amount would cover the estimated cost of \$56,400.00 to implement a control system upgrade of the existing stand-alone and KMC control systems as well as the estimated cost of \$175,100.00 to implement a control system upgrade for the 3rd floor.

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AIRPORT GROUND / LEASE CON'T: After review of the deed, Attorney Beaver stated that he disagrees with the interpretation that has been put to the Commissioners. I think that the County does own both parcels that are described in this deed. It makes the conveyance subject to a condition that the title will revert to Jasper County if the State of Indiana has not completed the construction of a National Guard Armory building upon said Parcel A within five (5) years. There is a Parcel A and a Parcel B and I think that the ownership reverts to both of them if an armory is not built on Parcel A. Attorney Beaver suggested that he draft a letter to Attorney Comingore stating his interpretation.

PURCHASE / DONNELLY PROPERTY: Attorney Beaver reported that he did contact the owner next door to the Harrison Street property that was recently purchased by the County in regards to possibly having a construction easement put in place to allow the County to own the parcel outright during the demolition project; however, a response has not yet been received. Mr. Haberlin will proceed with obtaining quotes to demolish the building.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT / MEETING REQUEST: Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve a request by Nancy Bailey, Health Department, to attend a Health Advisory Board meeting on November 12. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

TRUCK PURCHASE / HIGHWAY GARAGE: As discussed at the October meeting, Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the purchase of a Chevy truck from Wiers. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

VACATION DAYS / REQUEST TO EXTEND: Linda Armstrong, Deputy Auditor, has requested to extend eleven (11) vacation days. The suggestion was made to consider paying Ms. Armstrong the remainder of the days that she is unable to use by the end of the year. Mr. Culp asked Ms. Grow if this would cause any issues? Do you have the money available within your budget? Ms. Grow replied that she does have money available. Mr. Culp stated that we don't want to set a precedent; however, this is the cost of being understaffed and/or lower staffed. The flexibility is no longer there to be able to take the time off. Mr. Walstra made a motion to allow Ms. Armstrong to be paid for any days that she is unable to use by the end of the year. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

There being no further business, Mr. Maxwell made a motion to continue the meeting until Monday, November 17 on an as needed basis. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

JASPER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

Kendell Culp, President

James A. Walstra, Vice President

Richard E. Maxwell, Member

ATTEST:

Kimberly K. Grow, Auditor of Jasper County

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